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Appl. No. 10/010,242
Paper dated February 4, 2004
Reply to Office action of October 10, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An artificial lens for ameliorating undesired effects of an ophthalmological procedure performed on the eye of a subject, comprising:

a generally circular lens body having an anterior surface and a posterior surface for engaging the subject's eye, said lens having a substantially clear, annular center area greater than approximately 4 mm in diameter for positioning over a pupil of the eye and an adjacent light restricting area surrounding the substantially clear center area, said light restricting area having an annular inner margin and an annular outer margin and uniform opacity across the expanse between the recited margins and being disposed to impinge upon and restrict the light that enters a dilated pupil of the eye through the substantially clear center area.

2. (original) The artificial lens of claim 1 further comprising a peripheral, substantially clear area surrounding the light restricting area.

3. (currently amended) The artificial lens of claim 1 wherein the light restricting area is a substantially ~~darker in dark~~ color of uniform opacity ~~than the substantially clear center area.~~

4. (original) The artificial lens of claim 3 wherein the light restricting area is black in color.

5. (canceled)

6. (original) The artificial lens of claim 1 wherein the light restricting area is approximately 8 mm in diameter.

7. (original) The artificial lens of claim 1 wherein the light restricting area is approximately 13 mm to approximately 15 mm in diameter.

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) An artificial lens for limiting the amount of light that enters an eye through the a dilated pupil of the an eye of a subject, comprising:

a generally circular lens body having an anterior surface and a posterior surface for engaging the surface the subject's eye, said lens having a substantially clear, annular center zone having a diameter greater than 4 mm for positioning over the pupil of the eye and an adjacent annular light restricting zone of uniform opacity surrounding the substantially clear center zone, said light restricting zone disposed to impinge upon a peripheral edge the dilated pupil and limit light that enters the pupil of the eye through the substantially clear area.

11. (original) The artificial lens of claim 10 formed from an artificial lens material selected from the group of materials comprising acrylic, hemaphylic and silicone.

12. (currently amended) A method of restricting the amount of light that enters the dilated pupil of the eye of a subject in need of such light restriction comprising:

placing an artificial lens over the pupil of the subjects subject's eye, said artificial lens having a generally circular lens body with an anterior surface and a posterior surface for engaging the surface the subject's eye, said lens having a substantially clear center zone greater than 4 mm in diameter having no vision corrective properties, and an adjacent light restricting zone of uniform opacity across a width of the light restricting zone surrounding the substantially clear center zone, resulting in a center zone having a circumference less than the circumference of the dilated pupil; and

positioning said clear center zone over the pupil of the eye whereby said clear center zone allows light to enter the dilated pupil while said light restricting zone impinges upon and limits the light that enters the pupil of the eye through the substantially clear area center zone.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the subject is in need of such light restriction as a result of an ophthalmologic procedure comprising pharmacological dilation of the pupil.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the subject is in need of such light restriction as a result of a trauma to the ~~subjects~~ subject's eye resulting in dilation of the pupil.

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) An artificial lens for ~~ameliorating undesired effects of~~ an correcting refractive power of a subject's eye ~~ophthalmological procedure performed on the eye of a subject~~ having a flattened corneal surface, comprising:

a substantially circular lens body having an anterior surface with a desired reflective curvature and a posterior surface for engaging the corneal surface of the eye;

said posterior surface further comprising a configuration to accommodate a flattened corneal surface including a relatively flat center area, having a generally uniform radius of curvature of between approximately 9.2 mm to approximately 10.5 mg for positioning on the flattened corneal surface over the pupil of the eye, a second area adjacent said relatively flat center area having a radius of curvature the same as or less than that of the relatively flat center area whereby said posterior surface of the lens conforms to the shape of the flattened corneal surface of ~~an~~ the eye and allows transition from the flattened corneal to the adjacent corneal surface ~~which has been altered by the ophthalmological procedure, wherein placement of the lens on the cornea of the eye results in an artificial corneal surface of appropriate curvature to correct refractive power of the eye but does not physically alter the shape of the cornea itself.~~

17. (original) The artificial lens of claim 16 further comprising an area peripherally adjacent to said second area having a radius of curvature substantially greater than the radius of curvature of said second area.

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) The artificial lens of claim 16 wherein said second area has a radius of curvature of less than approximately 9.2 mm to approximately 10.5 mm ~~or less than 9.2 mm.~~

21. (original) The artificial lens of claim 17 wherein said area peripherally adjacent to said second area has a radius of curvature of approximately 11 mm to approximately 14 mm.

22. (presently amended) An artificial lens for normalizing the refraction of a relatively flattened cornea comprising:

a lens body having an anterior curvature of an appropriate corrective power and a posterior curvature, said posterior curvature being determined by the shape of the cornea and including a relatively flat center area having a uniform radius of curvature of between approximately 9.2 mm to approximately 10.5 mm disposed to conform to the flattened cornea, a second area peripherally adjacent the flat center area, said second area having a radius of curvature the same as or less than a radius of curvature of the first area.

23. (original) The artificial lens of claim 22 further comprising a third area peripherally adjacent said second area, said third area having a radius of curvature substantially greater than the radius of curvature of said second area.

24. (original) The artificial lens of claim 22 wherein said center area and said second area are present as discrete zones.

25. (original) The artificial lens of claim 23 wherein said center area, said second area and said third area are present as discrete zones.

26. (original) The artificial lens of claim 22 wherein said center area, said second area and said third area are provided in discrete zones.

27. (original) The artificial lens of claim 22 having an aspheric design.

28. (currently amended) An artificial lens for normalizing the refraction of a relatively flattened cornea comprising:

a lens body having a anterior curvature of an appropriate corrective power and a posterior curvature, said posterior curvature being determined by the shape of the cornea and including a relatively flat center area having a uniform radius of curvature of between approximately 9.2 mm and approximately 10.5 mm disposed to conform to the flattened cornea, a second area peripherally adjacent the flat center area, said second area having a radius of curvature the same as or less than a the radius of curvature of the first area such that the center area is at least one (1) diopter flatter than the second area and a third area peripherally adjacent said second area, said third area having a

radius of curvature substantially greater than the radius of curvature of said second area.

29. (currently amended) A method of correcting vision in an eye of a subject in need of such vision correction as a result of the eye of the subject having a relatively flattened cornea, comprising:

determining an appropriate refractive power of an artificial lens required to correct the vision;

determining a shape of the cornea;

applying a corrective lens to the eye of the subject, said lens comprising a lens body having an anterior curvature of the appropriate ~~corrective~~ refractive power and a posterior curvature, said posterior curvature being determined by the shape of the cornea and including a relatively flat center area having a uniform radius of curvature of between approximately 9.2 mm and 10.5mm disposed to conform to the flattened cornea and a second area peripherally adjacent the flat center area, said second area having a radius of curvature the same as or less than a radius of curvature of the first area, such that the center area is at least one (1) diopter flatter than the second area, wherein application of the lens to the eye results in the eye having an artificial surface that corrects vision in the eye without physically changing the shape of the underlying cornea.

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 29 wherein the artificial lens of claim 29 further comprising a third area peripherally adjacent said second area, said third area having a radius of curvature substantially greater than the radius of curvature of said second area.

31. (currently amended) An artificial lens for ameliorating an undesirable effect of dilation of the pupil of an eye of a subject resulting from light passing through the dilated pupil comprising:

a lens body having [a generally clear central area] means for positioning over the pupil of the eye to allow the passage of light into the pupil of the eye; and means for restricting the light passing through first recited means and into the dilated pupil.

32. (currently amended) An artificial lens for correcting vision in an eye of a subject having a relatively flattened cornea comprising:

a lens body having an anterior curvature of an appropriate vision corrective power and a posterior curvature, said posterior curvature being determined by a shape of the cornea and including means for conforming the lens to the shape of the flattened cornea; said anterior curvature and posterior curvature being appropriately configured and dimensioned such that the lens body forms an artificial corneal surface for correcting vision, without physically altering the physical shape of the cornea itself.